

CLAIMS

1. A method of embedding voice data in a computing system, the method comprising:
 - detecting a record event;
 - 5 detecting if a software application currently running on the computing system is voice-aware;
 - if the software application is voice-aware, embedding the voice data within associated data in the software application; and
 - if the application is not voice-aware, triggering a voice note application to record
 - 10 and store the voice data.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein detecting a record event comprises detecting activation of a hardware record button.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein detecting a record event comprises detecting activation of a software record button.
- 15 4. A method according to claim 1 wherein detecting if a software application comprises detecting if a top-level software application is voice-aware.
5. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
 - after said act of detecting a record event, recording voice data.
6. A method according to claim 5 further comprising:
 - 20 after said act of recording, buffering voice data.
7. A method according to claim 5 further comprising:
 - after said act of recording voice data, detecting whether a memory size of the voice data exceeds a maximum memory size.

8. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
before said act of detecting if a software application, detecting whether the record event
was a power-up event; if the event was a power-up event, triggering a voice note
application to record and store the voice data; and if the event was not a power-up event
5 detecting if a software application currently running on the computing system is voice-
aware.
9. A method according to claim 1 wherein said act of embedding comprises
providing an indication to the user that a voice note is embedded.
10. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
10 after said act of embedding, locking a connection to the software application.
11. A method according to claim 10 further comprising:
after said act of locking, communicating a status to the software application.
12. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
before said act of embedding, receiving recording specifications from the software
15 application.
13. A method according to claim 12 further comprising:
after said act of receiving recording specifications, modifying a user interface of the
software application.

14. A computer program product readable by a computing system and encoding instructions for a computer process for embedding a voice note in a computing system, the computer process comprising:

detecting a user activating a record button;

5 detecting if a software application currently active on the computing system is voice-aware;

if the software application is voice-aware, embedding the voice note within associated data in the software application; and

10 if the application is not voice-aware, triggering a voice note application to record and store the voice note.

15 15. A computer process according to claim 14 wherein detecting a user comprises detecting activation of a hardware record button.

16. A computer process according to claim 14 wherein detecting a user comprises detecting activation of a software record button.

15 17. A computer process according to claim 14 wherein detecting if a software application comprises detecting if a top-level software application is voice-aware.

18. A computer process according to claim 14 further comprising:
after said act of detecting a user, recording voice data.

19. A computer process according to claim 18 further comprising:
20 after said act of recording, buffering the voice data.

20. A computer process according to claim 18 further comprising:
after said act of recording voice data, detecting whether a memory size of the voice data exceeds a maximum memory size.

21. A computer process according to claim 14 further comprising:
before said act of detecting if a software application, detecting whether the activating of
a record button was a power-up event; if the event was a power-up event, triggering a
voice note application to record and store the voice note; and if the event was not a
5 power-up event detecting if a software application currently active on the computing
system is voice-aware.
22. A computer process according to claim 14 wherein said act of embedding
comprises providing an indication to the user that the voice note is embedded.
23. A computer process according to claim 14 further comprising:
10 after said act of embedding, locking a connection to the software application.
24. A computer process according to claim 23 further comprising:
after said act of locking, communicating a status to the software application.
25. A computer process according to claim 14 further comprising:
before said act of embedding, receiving recording specifications from the software
15 application.
26. A computer process according to claim 25 further comprising:
after said act of receiving recording specifications, modifying a user interface of the
software application.

27. A system for embedding voice data in a computing system, the system comprising:
- a detect module that detects a record event;
 - a top-level module that detects if a software application currently running on the computing system is voice-aware;
 - an embed module that embeds the voice data within associated data in the software application, if the software application is voice-aware; and
 - a trigger module that triggers a voice note application to record and store the voice data, if the application is not voice-aware.
28. A system according to claim 27 wherein the detect module detects activation of a hardware record button.
29. A system according to claim 27 wherein the detect module detects activation of a software record button.
30. A system according to claim 27 wherein the top-level module detects if a top-level software application is voice-aware.
31. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
- a record module that records voice data.
32. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
- a buffer module that buffers voice data.
33. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
- a size module that detects whether a memory size of the voice data exceeds a maximum memory size.

34. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
a power-up module that detects whether the record event was a power-up event; if the event was a power-up event, the power-up module triggers a voice note application to record and store the voice data.
- 5 35. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
an icon module that provides an indication to the user that a voice note is embedded.
36. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
a lock module that locks a connection to the software application.
37. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
10 a communication module that communicates a status to the software application.
38. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
a specifications module that receives recording specifications from the software application.
39. A system according to claim 27 further comprising:
15 a modify module that modifies a user interface of the software application.

40. A method in a computing system for modifying a user interface displayed on a display device, the method comprising:

receiving an indication from the computing device to modify the user interface;

5 displaying an identification block;

displaying a record toolbar;

displaying a note pad; and

displaying a note tab.

41. A method according to claim 40, wherein the step of displaying an identification
10 block includes displaying information regarding a currently running application in the identification block.

42. A method according to claim 40, wherein the step of displaying a record toolbar includes displaying a record button, a stop button, a play button, a fast forward button, and a rewind button.

15 43. A method according to claim 42, wherein the step of displaying a record toolbar further includes displaying a status bar indicating a relative length of a recording.

44. A method according to claim 41, wherein the step of displaying a note pad includes displaying both text data and an icon referring to an embedded voice note.

45. A method according to claim 41, wherein the step of displaying a note tab
20 includes displaying a note tab to provide an indication to a user that the user is in a record portion of a currently running application.

46. A display device having rendered thereon a user interface for displaying an embedded voice note, comprising:
- an identification block;
 - a record tool bar;
 - 5 a note pad; and
 - a note tab.
47. A display device according to claim 46, wherein the identification block includes information regarding a currently running application.
48. A display device according to claim 46, the record tool bar includes a record
10 button, a stop button, a play button, a fast forward button, and a rewind button.
49. A display device according to claim 48, wherein the record toolbar further includes a status bar indicating a relative length of a recording.
50. A display device according to claim 46, wherein the note pad includes both text data and an icon referring to an embedded voice note.
- 15 51. A display device according to claim 46, wherein the note tab includes an indication to a user that the user is in a record portion of a currently running application.